



THE

# KNIGHT



Vol. 8 No. 5 Issue 47 The LITHUANIAN Numismatic Association. Frank Passic, EDITOR. Feb-March 1986

## THE FIRST COUNTERFEIT LITH. NOTE

### 1938 NOTE REVEALS NEW INFORMATION

In response to our plea for locating the owner of the P-28 1938 10 Lity banknote auctioned last October by Christies in London, the owner, LNA member John P. Witter of Finland, has contacted us and sent a photocopy of his note.

This is the sole surviving example without the red PAVYZDYS overprint! It contains a hand written date of "16.3.38" in the upper right margin, which means that it was printed on March 16, 1938. Also at the top is the printed number "12,345," the significance of which is unknown to us. The note is lightly perforated CANCELLED in English in the lower signature area, but this is so light you can hardly see it.

Most importantly, this particular note gives the extent of the serial letters used in the entire run of the printing. The lower left serial number is A000,001. The upper right is B1,000,000. This means that there were probably 2 million printed, equally divided between A-B letters! This, therefore, is the only known note bearing the "B" letter, as the circulation notes were burned by the Soviets.

A bit of history for our newer readers. The 1938 10 Lity note was designed by artist Adomas Galdikas. It was ordered by the Bank of Lithuania, and printed by Bradbury, Wilkinson, LTD. The design commemorated the 20th anniversary of Lithuania's independence. The notes were printed by the firm, and shipped back to Lithuania, where they were placed in the main vault of the Bank of Lithuania in Kaunas.

Due to fear of Polish reprisals should this note be released, Bank officials held off releasing this commemorative note. The note plainly declared Vilnius as the capital of Lithuania, which at that time was held by war-threatening Poland in 1938. After Poland was defeated in 1939, the note was still not released because it made reference to Klaipėda, which had been taken over by Hitler.

Continued on page 4...

By JONAS RUGIS

[The Following article is reprinted and translated from the "Lithuanian Historical Magazine" from the publication "Tautos Praeitis" (The Past of a Nation), Volume 1, Book No. 2. Chicago, IL, 1960. Submitted by LNA member Charles Matuzas.]

The people of Lithuania were more than proud in 1922. There came about the monetary reform over their own currency. It is understandable, that at first there were doubts about the Litas' stability. This mistake lasted only a few short weeks.



Genuine P-14 50 Centu note, Lapkr. 16, 1922

It took very little time for everyone to get used to our own currency, when the economy normalized. Everyone was proud with our own currency, especially when seeing the catastrophic decline of the Reichsmark in Germany, where a billion marks could hardly buy a chicken.

The value of the Litas held steady with the dollar in the U.S. At the beginning with the establishment of the new currency, the Litas, its shortage was especially felt in the outer provinces, where it was valued even more.

One winter evening in the early part of 1923, a group of the inteligentia from the town of Švėkšna [Note: on the Baltic Sea, 38 km SE of Klaipėda] gathered around a card table in the citizen club to shorten the long evening house. In one of the group was a forrester who took out of his pocket a roll of newly printed banknotes of the 50 cent value [Pick-14], and began paying his losses. The winners were more than happy to acquire such beautiful new notes and tried hoarding them. CONTINUED ON PAGE 2...



## 2. COUNTERFEIT

Continued from page 1...

Only the following day did we find out that our new beautiful money we had won was not genuine, but counterfeit, and that the counterfeiter was already arrested with his cache.

About 4 km from Švėkšna in a small village called Vilko-Kampas, there lived Alm, an elderly man who had returned from America and now was living like a retired gentleman from his savings from America. Most likely his dollar reserve was getting exhausted.

Alm got a bright idea how to enrich himself. He prepared some sort of an official order for printing a certain amount of banknotes as per attached sample. He even found a way of adding the Švėkšna's county seal to his order and sent his order to a printer in Germany.

The order was taken care of immediately without any further questioning. All this should be understood, because in those days of post-war Germany, many towns in Germany issued their own small currency notes [Notgeld].

Lithuania's early banknotes were printed by the lithographic process and on ordinary paper, and in small denominations, was not numbered, just serial letters used. (See Jonas K. Karys' Independent Lithuanian Currencies pp. 155-170).

Thus the printer took care of the order immediately and Alm having received his banknotes immediately put them into circulation by buying forest timber in an auction.

These banknotes from Germany were very well done, being very close to the genuine notes. Most likely the sample that was sent to the printer must have been already worn and not new. Thereby it could be distinguished only by a very minor detail.

On the counterfeit notes, the Vytis horse left hind hoof is almost touching the shield at the bottom part of the frame, what one may not notice in the genuine banknote. Alm was arrested and tried in court and convicted, but sentenced only for a short time.

This must have been the first counterfeiting of the newly issued Lithuanian government bank notes. They were counterfeited in a unique manner, and very quickly discovered by the young and watchful police.

[OK, readers..do you have any counterfeits? Send us a photocopy, we'd like to mention them!]

For the record, The P-6 5 Litai note of September 10, 1922 ("Temporary" note) was counterfeited first. We've seen 2 of them; they have a flat appearance, especially the serial number, and the obverse background design is broken.]

## NEWS

We are happy to announce that our LNA is now part of recorded Lithuanian history! A short history of our group appears in the Lietuvių Encyclopedija (South Boston, Mass, 1985), Volume 37 "Supplement," page 437. Our own Val Matelis has translated the text for us, which reads as follows:

"NUMISMATICS. A Lithuanian numismatic organization, established in 1978, with headquarters at Columbia, Maryland. The founders are Americans of Lithuanian extraction: Frank Passic, Robert Douchis, V. Alonis, and others. The association's purpose: to unite Lithuanian numismatist with other interested Americans. The Association publishes a bi-monthly journal, The Knight, edited by F. Passic. He is well versed in Lithuanian numismatics, and has written many articles for the American press, and won first place for his collection at various international and national shows. The Association follows numismatic journals in the English language, and attempts to correct errors affecting Lithuania and other Baltic nations. The Association is a member of the national numismatic organization, the ANA, and conducts its shows and meetings in conjunction with the ANA once or twice annually in different cities. The Lithuanian Numismatic Association is the only active Lithuanian [numismatic] organization, and has about 130 members. Its board consists of: V. Alonis, F. Passic, R. Douchis, H. Gaidis, and V. Matelis."

\* \* \*

Lithuanian numismatic topics were featured at different meetings at the Chicago International Coin Fair held in March (8). The Polish American Numismatic Association featured a talk by Chester Marcyn entitled "Jadwigo and Jagiello: Two Nations United." The speaker mentioned that this year 1986 is the 600th anniversary of the marriage between Jagiello [Lith: Jogaila] and Polish Queen Jadwiga. He also mentioned that the PANA is issuing a commemorative medal later this year, celebrating the event, "the 600th anniversary of the Polish-Lithuanian union.." [Note: Poland wasn't officially united with Lithuania completely until 1569, at the Lublin Union]

At the same CICF event, the Russian Numismatic Society meeting, Alexandor Basok spoke on "Russian-Type Coinage of the Grand Dukes of Lithuania." According to World Coin News (March 25, 1986, p. 30,) "Basok detailed the region's earliest coins, how numerous changes in leadership affected them, and their similarity to coins from nearby regions, which facilitated trade."

It is interesting to note that just now Poland and Russia throughout history have tried to claim Lithuania as their own, that some numismatic groups are doing the same thing themselves. As we have stated before, Lithuanian numismatics is alive and well; it deserves its own rightful separate heading under "L," separate from Poland and Russia. The existence of the LNA is proof of that rightful place in the annals of numismatic history.



## AGRICULTURAL EXPOSITION MEDAL

1930 Agriculture Medal  
Designer: Adomas Galdikas  
Mint: Hugenin Bros., LeLocle, Switzerland.  
Metal content: bronze, silver.  
Diameter: Known in 60 mm. bronze.  
Mintage: Unknown.

At the beginning of the 20th century, nearly 90% of the inhabitants of Lithuania earned their living by agriculture, according to the Encyclopedia Lituanica. Independent Lithuania was primarily an agricultural nation, and this played a prominent role in the country's fiscal and political decisions.

In 1928 and 1930, an agricultural and industrial exposition (or fair) was held in Kaunas, the temporary capital of Lithuania. People of all ages across the country would bring in their produce, such as vegetables, for competition. Awards were given in the various categories.

In early 1928, artist Adomas Galdikas prepared a sketch of Elėna Turauskienė, wife of Lithuanian diplomat Edward Turauskas. Galdikas has asked her to pose for a portrait, but it was taking several sittings. Elėna then had a photograph made of herself and Galdikas used this photograph to finish the work. She received no compensation for the project.

As a result of this, the Bank of Lithuania issued a new 100 Lity banknote (P-25) dated March 31, 1928, on November 16 of that year. This banknote features Mrs. Turauskienė as a married Lithuanian woman in national costume, facing right.

In addition to the banknote, Galdikas also designed a medal for the Kaunas Lithuanian Agriculture and Industry Exposition, in conjunction with the 1930 celebration of the 500th anniversary of the death of Vytautas the Great.

The medals were struck in bronze and silver.

**OBVERSE DESCRIPTION:** Depicted in the center is the married Lithuanian woman in national costume (Mrs. Turauskienė), facing left. She holds an oak leaf/branch in her right hand, symbolic of strength. In the background is the outline of Kaunas. A wheel of industry is shown at the 4 o'clock position. On the bottom are two grains. Inscribed at the 4 o'clock position is the name of the sculptor/designer, "A. GALDIKAS."



**REVERSE DESCRIPTION:** The text states, "1930 VYTAUTO DIDŽIOJO METŲ, LIETUVOS ŽEMES UKIO IR PRAMONĖS PARODA, KAUNE," which translates, "Vytautas the Great Anniversary, 1930, Lithuanian Agriculture and Industry Exposition, Kaunas."

In the center is the so-called "Vytautas' Symbol," a 20th Century fabrication of archaeologist Tadas Daugirdas (1852-1919), based upon the small 1 denar coins struck by Vytautas in Vilnius circa 1392-1396. The design was adopted as an official symbol during the 500th anniversary celebration. The design features the archaic spearhead and cross emblem, with the letter "V" (for Vytautas) added.

To the left is a branch from the national herb/flower, the Rūta (Rue), a symbol of virginity. Opposite it on the right is an oak branch.

One of our own LNA members, Jonas Augustinius, mentioned to this writer that he entered this exhibition with some watermelons he had grown, and received a first place, but was given a ribbon, not a medal. We suspect that these medals therefore were not given as awards, but were purchased as mementoes of the exposition.

However, they appear to be very rare. Only a few are known to exist, to this writer's knowledge. One is in the collection of the Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture in Chicago. It was only recently donated by Pier L. Pieroni, of Italy. This is a bronze version, 60 mm. In a few older Lithuanian publications we've seen illustrations of a silver version, as illustrated here at the top of the page. Do any of our LNA members have this medal? If so, we'd like to know: the size, and what metal content. Write this editor, so we can make a tabulation.

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## 4. 1938 NOTE

Continued from page 1...

Only the PAVYZDYS specimens, bearing serial number A000,000 were distributed to the banks, in advance of a pending release date. These have been the only known notes to have survived, with the sole exception of this note which came from the printers. The printers archives today contains 1 sole PAVYZDYS A000,000 example.

When the Soviet Union invaded Lithuania in 1940, the entire circulation printing of the 1938 10 Litu was still in the main vault of the Bank of Lithuania in Kaunas. Because of it's nationalistic, independence and Smetona nature, the notes were burned and not released, although the Soviets allowed other Lithuanian banknotes to circulate until 1941.

For the complete story about this note, see these articles by this editor: "The Real Reason the 1938 10 Litu Banknote Was Not Placed Into Circulation," The Knight, January, 1984; "The Lithuanian 10 Litu Mystery Banknote" IBNS Journal Winter 1980/81 Vol. 19, No. 4, plus several articles in The Knight.

## HISTORY

The following paragraph appeared in Coin World, February 26, 1986 issue, page 69.

This is from the historic feature entitled "Coin Re-Collections," by Brad Reed.

### 1936

Dr. A.M. Rackus, after spending five months in Europe, has returned to the United States. He has sold his collection of 160,000 specimens and will return to Lithuania in June of this year to take up the post as Curator of the Numismatic department of the National Museum of Lithuania. Dr. Rackus reports that farmers in Lithuania plow up large quantities of ancient coins. They sell the gold and silver pieces to merchants and give the bronze coins to the children to play with.



A000,001 - B1,000,000

## EXHIBIT

The collection of Bronius Kviklys, Chicag, IL, the noted author, historian, and numismatist, was displayed at the February 16, 1986 celebration of Lithuanian-American Community's wahsington Chapter, Lithuanian Independence Day. Though this display presented only a small portion of Mr. Kviklys' collection, several thousand pieces were displayed, including Lithuanian coins and currency, military orders and decorations, and an extensive collection of Lithuanian table medals. Featured items included several coins of the Vytautas the Great period, a gold 1792 Lithuanian-Polish Commonwealth Virtuti Militari decoration, and one of the few surviving Napoleonic Lithuanian Lancer helmets with large "Vytis" helmet plate.

Kviklys began his collection many years ago in Lithuania and has continued his hobby in the U.S. after fleeing Lithuania during 1944. He has been prominent in Lithuanian journalism and recently retired as editor of the Lithuanian daily newspaper, Draugas [The Friend], in Chicago.



# LNA NEWS

In our article in the last issue about the Vytautas the Great medal, upon closer examination, it appears that the initials after the name of TARIBILDA are "D.E.L.," not CFL as we reported.

We've gotten some letters asking how you determine the 1916 3 Ost-Rubel note, whether it is type I or II.

Serial letters ABCD are Type I, which have the letter "f" (actually is a Gothic "s") CROSSED in the Latvian word Aisdewu on the reverse (right side). For an illustration of this, see Jonas K. Karys' original 1953 book, page 45. The crossed "f" is quite distinct.

Type II, however, has the "f" UNCROSSED. Do not confuse the wavy background security design as a crossed "f" (which looks like it is crossed slightly to the right). Type II serial letters are G and further. The Type II "G" note we illustrated in the Oct-Nove 1985 issue was serial Number G 053978.

It appears that when mentioning the serial letter and number possibilities on the 500 Litu note last month, page 6, we are now more inclined to believe that there were 100,000 of each letter (ABCD), rather than the letters divided into that number. We've examined other banknotes produced by the firm, and it clearly indicates that each letter started back at the beginning 0 number.

Over the past several years, we've been accumulating data on various Lithuanian table medals (such as is featured on page 3). We are in need of information about the Augustinus Voldemaras bronze medal issued by the Lithuanians in Australia a decade ago. We know some of our members ordered these, and we would appreciate a copy of the information about them. We would like to feature this medal sometime.

Our apologies for the late Knight issues for the last few issues. Our goal is the last week of the First month of the issue months. Our Director, who handles the printing and mailing (Bob Douchis), has been extremely busy with personal matters, including moving, and has been delayed in LNA pursuits. We hope to regain a normal schedule beginning with the next issue.

Do you know of any Lithuanian collectors? Sign them up to the LNA! Write for leaflets.

# CERTIFICATE

5.



## DIDŽIOJO LIETUVOS KUNIGAIKŠČIO GEDIMINO ORDINO MEDALIS

LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS PREZIDENTO AKTU

*Virsilg*  
*Vladas Augulis*

UŽ NUOPECHNUS LIETUVAI APDOVANOTAS DIDŽIOJO

LIETUVOS KUNIGAIKŠČIO GEDIMINO ORDINO

MEDALIU *antrojo* LAIPSNIU

*G. Binskas*  
ORDINŲ KANCELERIS

*A. Ulšauskas*  
ORDINŲ REIKALŲ VEDĖJAS

RESPUBLIKOS PREZIDENTO AKTAS PADARYTAS

KAUNE 1939 m. *sausio* mėn. 15 d. 284 NR

We are happy to print here a copy of the certificate for the Order of Gediminas MEDAL, which we featured in the April-May 1982 issue of The Knight.

The certificate illustrated here is part of the collection of the Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture in Chicago, and is translated for us by our own Val Matelis.

The translation is as follows: "L.R. [Republic of Lithuania] MEDAL OF THE ORDER OF LITHUANIAN GRAND DUKE GEDIMINAS By Act of the President of the Republic of Lithuania, Sergeant Major Vladas Augulis, for Services to Lithuania, is Awarded this Medal of the Order of Lithuanian Grand Duke Gediminas Second Class [silver] (Signature) G. Binskas [?], Chancellor of the Order, (Signature) A. Ulšauskas [?], Supervisor of the Order. This Act of the President was promulgated at Kaunas, February 15, 1929. No. 282."



## 6. LITHUANIAN COPPER SHILLINGS AND THEIR MINTAGES 1663-1667

BY: STASYS JANUŠONIS

With this issue we begin another of our "Lithuanian Numismatic Classics" series. The article we will be featuring for the next several issues of The Knight was written by the late Stanislovas (Stasys for snort) Algimantas Janušonis (1937-1983), whose biography and obituary we featured in the February-March 1985 issue.

The article to be presented here was originally entitled, "1663-1667 m. Lietuvos Didžiosios Kunigaikštystės Pinigų Kalyklų Infliacinį Vario Šilingų Kaldinimo Nežinomos Ataskaitos," which translates, "Settlement of Hidden Accounts For The Period 1663-1667 of the Inflationary Copper Shillings Strikings by the Money Mints of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania." We have shortened the title to: "Lithuanian Copper Shillings and Their Mintages 1663-1667."

This article originally appeared on pp. 123-146 in Lietuvos Istorijos Metraštis 1973 [The Yearbook of Lithuanian History, 1973].., compiled by composite authors, and published by Mintis, Vilnius, 1974.

The article has been translated into English for the LNA by our own Val Matelis, of Coral Gables, Florida.

Janušonis reveals for the first time perviously unknown mintages of the inflationary copper shillings issued under Lithuanian Grand Duke Jonas Kazimieras. Janušonis also reveals for the first time records of a Lithuanian Mint at Marienburg. This article should prove a valuable resource for those studying medieval Lithuanian numismatics.

While the major portion of the text was in Lithuanian, many of the footnotes were either in Polish or Russian, since original sources were in these languages. We have therefore omitted these lengthy footnotes at the bottom. There are a few exceptions where we will include them at our discretion. However, we will put the footnote numbers in the text where they appear. If you need a copy of the original article with the footnotes, this will be available on request only from this editor for photocopying/mailling costs at the conclusion of the series.

The mintage charts are in Polish, the "official language" used at the time. These we will photocopy directly, and perhaps one of our members would translate them for us.

This is truly an important "post-Karys" study on medieval Lithuanian numismatics, in which some important discoveries are made. We hope you enjoy it.

--Frank Passic, EDITOR.

Who of us has not heard of the descriptive and that much more valid Latin idiom "Pecunia est nervus belli?" [Money is the vigor of war]. The absolute and all-encompassing truth of this sentence is brilliantly demonstrated in the mid-17th century warring period of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania (further, GDL) in its economic, political, and military life.

The GDL was fated to suffer many disasters: starting with devastation by foreign armies, followed by years of famine and epidemics of pestilence, which destroyed half of the country's inhabitants and ending with the unheard of inflation of massive copper shilling emission, which finally brought the country's fiscal and monetary economy to universal anarchy and uncontrolled economic ruin. The conditions just enumerated caused the inflation, because through that disturbed era, the GDL National Treasury, irregularly supplemented with fresh, but unusually diminished taxes, was so low and so heavily indebted to its army, that it was unable to purchase the most ordinary weapons and even to finance the nation's delegates to the peace negotiations. During this period of years, failure to pay the military resulted in a monumental debt, which the Treasury was unable to pay. The GDL army, reacting to this situation, confederated (unionized) and demanded compensation which after long and acrimonious negotiations, was reduced to the sum of 4 million auksinas [TRANSLATOR'S NOTE: One of the headaches in this translation is the word "auksinas." Although this literally means "gold piece," it was used as a Lithuanian translation of the Polish word Zloty. But a Zloty meant a 30 grašis coin, which was silver, not gold. It might be appropriate to change the word "auksinas" to mean "taler," which was worth 30 grašis. In this translation we will use a nominative auksinas (without the plural Lithuanian endings such as -ių) and you can decide best how to decipher it. For a further study of the word "auksinas," see Jonas K. Karys' Ancient Lithuanian Currencies (LNA translation, 1980-1982), pp. 284 and 289] pieces. Seeking to break the union, there remained but one expedient, to choose the highly risky but the only step--inflation. No other alternatives were available to the GDL rulers at that critical moment.

Seeking to raise in such a short time that enormous sum from money manipulations, it became necessary to establish a number of coin mints which would emit the inflationary money, and from the profit realized to assign it exclusively to the payment of the aforementioned debt. How was this decision arrived at?



Prior to 1659, the boyars expressed a growing tendency specifically to demand the use of regimentation in the coining of money, solely to replenish the National Treasury, subsuming it only for fiscal necessities.

At that time, in 1658, the Congress established a Coin Emission Committee, whose basic task would be to find supplemental receipts from the striking of coins. However, this Committee failed to find means to raise money, and thus failed to pacify the army's confederation. Though commissioners from the GDL National Treasury proceeded to the divisions of the army and promised them in a short time to produce 200,000 auksinas [See translator's note, previous page] from the money mints to pay the army's wages,<sup>1</sup> they failed to keep this promise.

And only on March 22, 1659, at the opening of Congress was the historical decision passed, "Re: The Money Mint," which officially authorized the unprecedented massive inflation, using the words "of money reform." As the basis for this constitutional step, the 1654 Congressional regulation on striking of coins was grasped, but dealt exclusively with silver coins.<sup>2</sup> However, in this new regulation, the striking of silver coins was not the principal subject because from silver coins, even of a debased content, any great profit could not be expected. The new Congressional constitution of 1659 supplemented, even if not specifically, a new, and it must be emphasized in advance, a third substantive decision which absolutely changed the basic premise of the 1654 constitution.

The constitution of 1659 was made up of three parts. The first two were taken from the 1654 constitution, but the third was entirely new. Essentially, it is this: 1) Since the Republic at the present time requires the utmost of income from all possible sources, some of that profit must also be realized from the money mint; 2) Since up until now, the mint "furnished no income," from now on, new constitutional powers will be granted to the constitution, and to accomplish this, a new Money Striking Committee will be formed consisting of 30 persons who will regulate monetary relations. The mint must be administered by the head of the Treasury and must supply to the forthcoming Congress a report of its activity. The said Committee, chaired by the head of the Treasury, must convene in Warsaw on June 9, 1659, and there establish a procedure for striking coins; 3) "In certain money mints," it is ordered to strike a million copper shillings for whose striking the head of the Treasury is responsible, and required to account

for same at the forthcoming Congress.<sup>3</sup>

For the money mints of the GDL, that same Congress passed a separate resolution, analogous to the cited judgment of the Crown. This resolution declares the situation more clearly; it does not cover its meaning with vague phrases. It announces that the creation of these money mints is the only possibility permitting the payment of the army's debt. Therefore, it authorizes the GDL national administrator, the Smolensk Palatinate, Adam Matthew Sakavičius, out of collected taxes, to immediately establish a money mint at Lithuanian Brasta, since to establish it in the traditional location--Vilnius, occupied by enemy troops, was impossible. With the proceeds first of all, to compensate for the debts owed to the army, and then, to pay all other pending bills.<sup>4</sup> Further, it must be responsible to the delegates of the tribunal of the GDL National Treasury.

Since we are not interested at this point in the first two paragraphs of this constitution,<sup>5</sup> but only the third, and that portion of the second, affecting the procedure adopted June 9, 1659 by the assembled Committee, we must pause and consider these briefly.

First of all, we must begin with the procedure mentioned in the second paragraph. On July 7, 1659, a new coin striking procedure was described, in addition to the striking method for silver coins ordained in 1654, there was introduced a new mandatory exchange rate for the newly struck inflationary shillings: one silver grašis to equal three copper shillings, and at the same time, unlimited profit from such monetary manipulation. This decision of the Commission affected the organizers of the coin striking as well as the actual employees, since they all were required to adhere to the same rules, as well as the public in general, since it was with their compliance that it would be possible to realize the coveted profit. For that purpose, stringent regulations were imposed by Treasury officials, ordering all inhabitants always and everywhere to observe the mandatory exchange rate for inflationary copper shillings.

The decision of the constitution mentioned by the Crown which the recently appointed Royal Secretary (an Italian, T.L. Boratini) agreed to execute. On July 20, 1659, an agreement was reached with him, "concerning a mint of silver and shillings."<sup>7</sup> Contractor T.L. Boratini struck Royal copper shillings in the newly established money mint at Ujazdov (near Warsaw) from November 19, 1659, to June 30, 1661, for a total of 817,708 auksinas and 20 grašis; and the remainder of 182,291 auksinas and 20 grašis at the Cracow money mint, where, incidentally, at one time he emitted silver and gold coins,<sup>8</sup> paying into the Treasury rental fees for the production of copper shillings amounting to 360,000 auksinas, and for silver, 50,000 auksinas pieces.

TO BE CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE...

[Tell your Polish collector friends about this important series, and sign them up to a subscription of The Knight!]



## 8. ADS

**WANTED:** 1916 5 kopek "Ost" iron coins from both mints in XF or better. Also view postcards of Lithuania and Alaipeđa/Memel (pre-WWII), and a copy of the book, Timeless Lithuania (Chicago, 1932), by Owen Norem. J.R. Greene, 33 Beardsden Rd., Athol, Mass. 01331.

**FOR SALE:** Last call, just a few left. 5 x 7 color glossy photo of the "new" unreleased 500 Litu banknote OBERSE, August 15, 1924. This will be listed as Pick-21A in the next edition. See last issue of The Knight for description. \$10.00. Frank Passic, 900 S. Eaton St., Albion, MI 49224.

**FOR SALE:** The Knight Vol. 1, No.1 (first issue) June-July, 1978! \$2.50. Vilnius Pasas (Vilnius Passport) booklet used to raise money to liberate Vilnius from Poland. Contains individual serial number, scenes of Vilnius, and spaces to affix stamps. Issued by the Vilnius Geleziminio Fondo Komitetas, circa 1925-30. Historic! \$10.

Lithuanian 20th anniversary (1938) pin, has Roman numerals "XX" with archaic Vytis emblem and wreath branch. Beautiful. \$7.00

Lithuanian Displaced Persons Pin, with Columns of Gediminas, showing globe, ocean, wagon, and woman. Probably from the 1950's. \$3.00.

Anti-USSR envelope (printed by Dr. Račkus) showing map of Baltic States, a man reading a book to a child, with bloody hammer & sickle reaching in. Text reads "SSSR Liquidated 550,000 Liths." Collector's item! (ca. 1950) \$4.00

1936 5 Litai (Y-12) silver coin, with bust of Dr. Jonas Basanavičius. VF-XF average, \$18 each, or 3 for \$45.

Balzėkas Museum of Lithuanian Culture, 4012 Archer Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60632 (312) 847-2441.



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## LETTERS

I would like to thank the readers of The Knight who have responded to my earlier want ads, especially with post cards and stamps I needed. Has anyone been designated to reprint old Knight issues yet? I'd like to fill out my set. Have you people thought of issuing an illustrated handbook of all independent Lithuanian and Memel coinage and paper money? Something like the LPSNY stamp handbook. This would be a good way to propagate the Lithuanian coin hobby among those in the vast majority not familiar with the LNA, the books of Karys, etc. The stamp handbook has won many friends to Lithuanian philately who hadn't thought of it before! I even donated one to my local library. --J.R. Greene, Mass.

[Editor's comments: Send us a list of the issues you're missing, and we'll put it in a want ad here in The Knight. Would anyone be willing to photocopy their old issues and answer these type of requests?

This editor has a full book manuscript about Lithuanian 20th century numismatics, which incorporates all the new discoveries we have been making, the serial letters, etc., as well as the history and biographies. The estimate to get this published would be \$10,000., which would have to be raised. We've held off proceeding because of all the new discoveries that have been pouring in, so they can be included in the data.]

I'm enclosing my donation to become a member of the LNA. I've learned of your group through Coin World while reading a column about Vincent Alones. My wife and I are Lithuanians whose parents came to this country from Lithuania. We are interested in all coins, medals, artifacts, etc., that have been a part of Lithuania. --Joseph R. Saltmeris, AK.

## WHAT DO YOU THINK ?

The latest hardcover edition of the Standard Catalog of World Coins has produced a big jump in the prices of Lithuanian coins in uncirculated condition. Many factors of course affect prices: demand, mintage, availability, etc. We are printing here the XF and UNC prices. Do you agree with them? Are these correct/fair/accurate market prices? What is your opinion? Write us! Keep in mind that when it says UNC, it means UNC, not a "slider." are there truly any UNC Lithuanian coins? Let's hear your opinions--this should be interesting!

	XF	UNC	
Y-1 1 Centas 1925	\$10	\$25	Notice there are some huge differences between some XF and UNC grades. Where would an "AU" be priced at?...
Y-2 5 Centai 1925	\$10	\$20	
Y-3 10 Centų 1925	\$11	\$22.50	
Y-4 20 Centų 1925	\$12	\$25	
Y-5 50 Centų 1925	\$20	\$45	
Y-6 1 Litas 1925	\$12	\$35	
Y-7 2 Litu 1925	\$17.5	\$60	
Y-8 5 Litai 1925	\$20	\$75	
Y-9 1 Centas 1936	\$9	\$20	
Y-10 2 Centai 1936	\$15	\$35	
Y-11 5 Centai 1936	\$14	\$25	
Y-12 5 Litai 1936	\$14	\$50	
Y-13 10 Litu 1936	\$22.5	\$60; 1938: \$60, \$125	



# LITH PUNKT NOTE SURVEY (LITHUANIAN SERIES)

DENOMINATION		WITH SERIAL #	NO SERIAL #
	SERIAL #		<div style="text-align: center;">X</div>
1	PRINTER		
	DATE		
	WM		
	SERIAL #		<div style="text-align: center;">X</div>
3	PRINTER		
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	SERIAL #		<div style="text-align: center;">X</div>
5	PRINTER		
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	SERIAL #		<div style="text-align: center;">X</div>
10	PRINTER		
	DATE		
	WM		

PRINTER	A	LETTLANDS WERTPAPIERDRUCKEREI, RIGA
	B	RIGAS LITOGRAFIJA UN OFSET SPIESTUVE ATL. 3173
DATE	C	JUNE 30, 1943
	D	APRIL 30, 1945
WATERMARK E		OST (IF NONE, OR OTHER THAN OST, INDICATE)

Dear LNA member: We are researching the Lithuanian Punkt Note series. Please examine your notes, & provide the serial # (if any) & indicate by letter the other data. Any research info. concerning Punkt notes (including Latvian & Estonian) would be appreciated. Thanks.

RETURN TO: LNA, POB 612, COLUMBIA, MD 21045



